

# Teen Dating Violence

## Dating Rights:

I have the right...

- To be treated with respect always
- To my own body, thoughts, opinions, and property
- To choose and keep my friends
- To change my mind at any time
- To not be abused - physically, emotionally, or sexually
- To leave a relationship
- To say no
- To be treated as an equal
- To disagree
- To live without fear and confusion from my boyfriend or girlfriend's anger

## Dating Responsibilities:

I have the responsibility...

- To not threaten to harm myself or another
- To encourage my girlfriend or boyfriend to pursue his or her dreams
- To support my girlfriend or boyfriend emotionally
- To communicate, not manipulate
- To not humiliate or demean my girlfriend or boyfriend
- To refuse to abuse - physically, emotionally, or sexually
- To take care of myself
- To allow my boyfriend or girlfriend to maintain their individuality
- To respect myself and my girlfriend or boyfriend
- To be honest with my boyfriend or girlfriend



Office of Attorney General  
Terry Goddard  
1275 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: 602-542-4266  
[www.ag.state.az.us](http://www.ag.state.az.us)

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## ***Frequently Asked Questions About Teen Dating Violence***

### **Q: What kind of abuse occurs in relationships?**

A: Relationship abuse comes in many forms. Most abuse falls within one of the four categories: physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual. You need to be aware of these forms of abuse so you will know if one or more of them is part of your relationship.

### **Q: What are some early warning signs that my partner might abuse me?**

A: There are certain behaviors that are often seen in people who abuse their partners. Some examples are: explosive anger, substance abuse, forcing sex on partner, isolation, possessiveness, and threats of violence.

### **Q: I get jealous sometimes. Does that mean I'm an abuser or potential abuser?**

A: Everyone gets jealous sometimes. What you need to watch is for jealousy that is extreme or used to control the other partner. Some signs that your partner is being abusive is when he or she gets upset when you talk, spend time with, or express warm feelings toward other people.

### **Q: Is it normal for my partner to want to know where I am all the time?**

A: This is an early sign that your partner might become abusive in the future. Your partner is showing possessiveness and controlling behavior. It is more extreme than jealousy and is also a dangerous sign of trouble ahead.

### **Q: When my partner gets mad it scares me. How can I tell if this is a warning sign of abuse?**

A: Even if your partner rarely gets angry, you should always watch out for people who seem to get too angry. People who hit things, yell loudly, call names, or threaten with violence are people who show signs of future relationship abuse.

For more information please contact:

Arizona Sexual Assault Network

1-602-285-1195 [www.azsan.org](http://www.azsan.org)

Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1-800-782-6400 [www.azcadv.org](http://www.azcadv.org)

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